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## **PCHA supports Pinellas Hope with donation**

**PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA** – Today, the Palm Lake Village Housing Corporation (PLVHC) and the Pinellas County Housing Authority (PCHA) presented Frank Murphy and Sheila Lopez of Pinellas Hope and Catholic Charities with a check for \$300,000.00. This donation will assist in providing a portion of the operating funds needed to continue Pinellas Hope, a non-profit organization providing an array of social services designed to promote self-sufficiency for those in need in Pinellas County.

The PLVHC has non-HUD funding available for this one-time donation to Pinellas Hope. Catholic Charities was recently notified by the Pinellas County Board of Commission that 30% of their budget would be reduced. To date, Catholic Charities has been able to successfully place 57% or approximately 737 individuals into some type of permanent housing within the community.

Chairman of the PCHA Board Joseph Triolo said, “As a local housing leader, our mission is to provide housing to those in need and we have recognized this valuable opportunity to partner with Pinellas Hope. We are honored and privileged to be able to lend a hand. Support has never been more needed than it is today and we are pleased that we are able to help.”

Pinellas Hope provides homeless individuals with comprehensive case management and support services so that they can successfully transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency. Frank Murphy, President of Catholic Charities, was grateful for the decision the Board made because with this contribution they will be able to continue their commitment to serve those in need.

Recently Chairman Triolo, visited the offices of Congressman Bill Young, Congressman Gus Bilirakis and Congresswoman Kathy Castor to seek their assistance in identifying grant and other funding opportunities for Pinellas Hope. Congressman Young’s office has taken the lead and is looking at opportunities for a pilot program between Pinellas Hope and the PCHA.

For more information about PCHA’s partnership with Pinellas Hope or the Authority’s strides to provide housing to those in need, please visit our Web site at [www.pin-cha.org](http://www.pin-cha.org) or call 727-443-7684.

**About Pinellas County Housing Authority (PCHA):**

Formed in 1965 and governed by a five member Board of Commissioners appointed by the Governor of the State of Florida, the Pinellas County Housing Authority (PCHA) provides housing and rental assistance to a total of more than 4,200 families in Pinellas County. The authority is proud to be rated by HUD as a “High Performing” agency. More information about the authority's programs and services can be found at [www.pin-cha.org](http://www.pin-cha.org).

**About Catholic Charities and Pinellas Hope:**

Catholic Charities, Diocese of St. Petersburg has served 1,570 individuals since opening in December 2007 and are currently serving an excess of 270 residents each day. Pinellas Hope provides counseling, housing assistance, transportation and other basic needs. Case workers assess the homeless upon admission and provide the necessary services so they can reach the next level of independence. Catholic Charities has been able to successfully place 57% or approximately 737 individuals into some type of permanent housing within the community. Pinellas Hope also provides well over 90,000 days of secure environment to homeless people in the community. Pinellas Hope also gives these individuals the support they need to help them transition to independence. For more information about Catholic Charities and Pinellas Hope, visit [www.pinellashope.org](http://www.pinellashope.org).



***\*\*Picture attached\*\* Pictured from L to R: Frank Murphy (Catholic Charities/Pinellas Hope), Sheila Lopez (Catholic Charities/Pinellas Hope), PCHA Board Members: Angela Rouson, Commissioner, Joseph Triolo, Chairman, Charles Samaha, Vice-Chair, Cynthia Wilson, Commissioner***

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